



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://cao.co.la.ca.us>

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

September 24, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

SECOND QUARTERLY REVIEW OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY TISSUE SERVICES AGREEMENT

On March 11, 2003, your Board adopted the Tissue Collection Services Contract (contract) administered by the Department of Coroner, in consultation with the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) and Director of Health Services. On July 17, 2001, the Board ordered that the Tissue Panel conduct quarterly reviews to ensure compliance by Tissue Banks International (TBI) with the terms of the contract.

STATUS

On August 6, 2003, the CAO submitted the first quarterly report to your Board and gave specific background and findings. The Coroner reports that for the most part, the contract progress remains status quo with the exception of the following:

CARDIOVASCULAR AND SKIN TISSUES

Upon implementation of the contract, cardiovascular and skin tissues were of interest primarily to the American Red Cross (ARC) and TBI. The first quarterly report stated that West Coast Tissue Services (WCTS) had recently expressed interest in receiving these types of tissues and was in negotiations with TBI to receive such tissues. The Coroner now reports that WCTS has completed negotiations with TBI and is receiving cardiovascular and skin tissues.

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CONSENT

As earlier reported, the new contract provides that participating tissue banks, in addition to the contract holder, may elect to perform the process of acquiring consent from the next of kin provided that the tissue banks have complied with existing laws and regulations and have indemnified the County, contract holder, and any other parties involved. In our last report, we indicated that Pacific Coast Tissue Bank had successfully complied with these requirements and was now performing consents. WCTS also had indicated interest, but to date has not yet secured an underwriter for the required insurance. ARC had also expressed interest, but continues the process of completing the required forms and securing insurance.

CONCLUSION

The Coroner continues to report that all parties appear to be cooperating with each other and the terms of the contract are being met.

If you have questions, please call me or your staff may contact Mark Sandoval at (213) 974-1135.

DEJ:DL
RG:MS:ljp

c: Coroner
Department of Health Services

tissue2.bm